

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties number: B-4556

Name: 41st St. Over I-83

The bridge referenced herein was inventoried by the Maryland State Highway Administration as part of the Historic Bridge Inventory, and SHA provided the Trust with eligibility determinations in February 2001. The Trust accepted the Historic Bridge Inventory on April 3, 2001. The bridge received the following determination of eligibility.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST	
Eligibility Recommended _____	Eligibility Not Recommended <u>X</u>
Criteria: <u>  </u> A <u>  </u> B <u>X</u> C <u>  </u> D Considerations: <u>  </u> A <u>  </u> B <u>  </u> C <u>  </u> D <u>  </u> E <u>  </u> F <u>  </u> G <u>  </u> None	
Comments: _____ _____ _____	
Reviewer, OPS: <u>Anne E. Bruder</u>	Date: <u>3 April 2001</u>
Reviewer, NR Program: <u>Peter E. Kurtze</u>	Date: <u>3 April 2001</u>

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Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties  
Historic Bridge Inventory  
Maryland State Highway Administration  
Maryland Historical Trust

MHT Number B-4556

Name and SHA No. BC 3207

**Location:**

Street/Road Name and Number: 41st Street over I-83

City/Town: Baltimore

Vicinity   

County:   

Ownership:    State    County X Municipal    Other

This bridge projects over: X Road    Railway X Water    Land

Is the bridge located within a designated district:    yes X no

   NR listed district    NR determined eligible district

   locally designated    other

Name of District   

**Bridge Type:**

   Timber Bridge

   Beam Bridge    Truss-Covered    Trestle

   Timber-and-Concrete

   Stone Arch

   Metal Truss

   Movable Bridge

   Swing

   Bascule Single Leaf    Bascule Multiple Leaf

   Vertical Lift    Retractable    Pontoon

X Metal Girder

X Rolled Girder    Rolled Girder Concrete Encased

   Plate Girder    Plate Girder Concrete Encased

   Metal Suspension

   Metal Arch

☐ Metal Cantilever

☐ Concrete

☐ Concrete Arch ☐ Concrete Slab ☐ Concrete Beam

☐ Rigid Frame

☐ Other Type Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Description:**

**Describe Setting:**

Bridge Number BC3207 carries 41st Street in a generally east-west direction over the Jones Falls Expressway and Jones Falls in the City of Baltimore, Maryland. The approach to the roadway is level and has four lanes. The area around this bridge is suburban and wooded. The structures in the vicinity of this bridge are generally from the twentieth century.

**Describe Superstructure and Substructure:**

Bridge Number BC3207 is a 23 span structure, measuring 1,238 feet in total length. Bridge Number BC3207 is a rolled I-beam deck structure. The roadway width from curb to curb is 44 feet and the total deck width is 54 feet. There are sidewalks on both sides of the bridge and the width of each is four feet.

The superstructure is composed of a rolled steel girder deck system. There are 23 spans in the main bridge unit and no approach units. The longest span is 75 feet long and the spans average 35 feet. There are no stringers in the structure. The floor system is composed of concrete cast-in-place. The joints are made of a preformed expansion material. There are two rectangular concrete parapets. There is little ornamentation. There are no historical plaques.

The substructure is composed of concrete abutments and concrete wing walls. The piers and columns are also concrete. There is no ornamentation. There are no historical plaques. The condition of this bridge is currently rated satisfactory, with some section loss, deterioration and spall.

**Discuss Major Alterations:**

There has been one major alteration to this structure. This occurred in 1984 and involved the reconstruction of this bridge. All elements of this bridge are new.

**History:****When Built:** 1930 and 1984**Why Built:** Increased traffic density necessitated a structure with an increased load capacity.**Who Built:** State Roads Commission**Why Altered:** Safety and structure**Was this bridge built as part of an organized bridge building campaign:** Bridge built for a hazardous grade elimination program.**Surveyor Analysis:****This bridge may have NR significance for association with:**☐ A Events ☐ Person☐ C Engineering/Architectural**Was this bridge constructed in response to significant events in Maryland or local history:**

Yes. Increasing growth of vehicular traffic rates paralleled the growth of state-owned and state-aided highways. The 1930's brought a dramatic increase in the number of tractor-trailers and other heavy vehicles. The Maryland State Roads Commission began to emphasize standardized designs. Old, one way bridges and other inadequate designs were often replaced by steel girder design bridges.

**When the bridge was built and/or given a major alteration, did it have a significant impact on the growth and development of the area?**

Yes. Bridge BC3207 had a significant impact on the Coldspring area. The ability to access the markets and employment potential of Baltimore City would have been seriously limited to locals had this bridge not been built. The steady outward growth of Baltimore City necessitated the steady growth of a sufficient transportation network. The construction of bridge BC3207 would have been a significant part of this development. The neighborhoods of Coldsprings would have all been directly impacted.

**Is the bridge located in an area which may be eligible for historic designation and would the bridge add to or detract from historic and visual character of the possible district?**

No. Bridge BC3207 is located in an area with little or no historic significance. This area has had a wide variety of unconnected developments. There is little in this area that could be considered in the future for eligibility. The loss of this bridge would not detract from the historic or visual character of this area.

**Is the bridge a significant example of its type?**

No. Bridge BC3207 is a common type of metal girder bridge. Metal girder bridges were built prolifically in Maryland from the late nineteenth century to the present day. There is nothing to set this bridge apart from others of its type. There are numerous other examples of this bridge available.

**Does the bridge retain integrity of the important elements described in the Context Addendum?**

No. The 1984 reconstruction removed the important elements.

**Should this bridge be given further study before significance analysis is made and Why?**

No. This bridge does not retain sufficient elements of historical structural integrity to qualify for further study.

**Bibliography:**

Baltimore City Inspection and Bridge Files. Baltimore, Maryland.

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1917-24 Annual Report of the Highways Engineer. Baltimore, Maryland.

Hopkins, G.M.  
1977 Atlas of Baltimore, Maryland. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

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1970-95 Historic Resources Survey Form Files. Maryland Historical Trust Library. Crownsville, Maryland.

Spero, P.A.C. & Company, and Louis Berger & Associates  
1994 Historic Bridges in Maryland: Historic Bridge Context. Baltimore, Maryland.

State Highway Administration  
1993 Bridge Inventory. Baltimore, Maryland.

U.S. Department of the Interior  
1990 National Register Bulletin Number 15. National Park Service. Washington D.C.

U.S. Department of Transportation  
1991 Bridge Inspectors Manual. Federal Highway Administration. Washington D.C.

**Surveyor:**

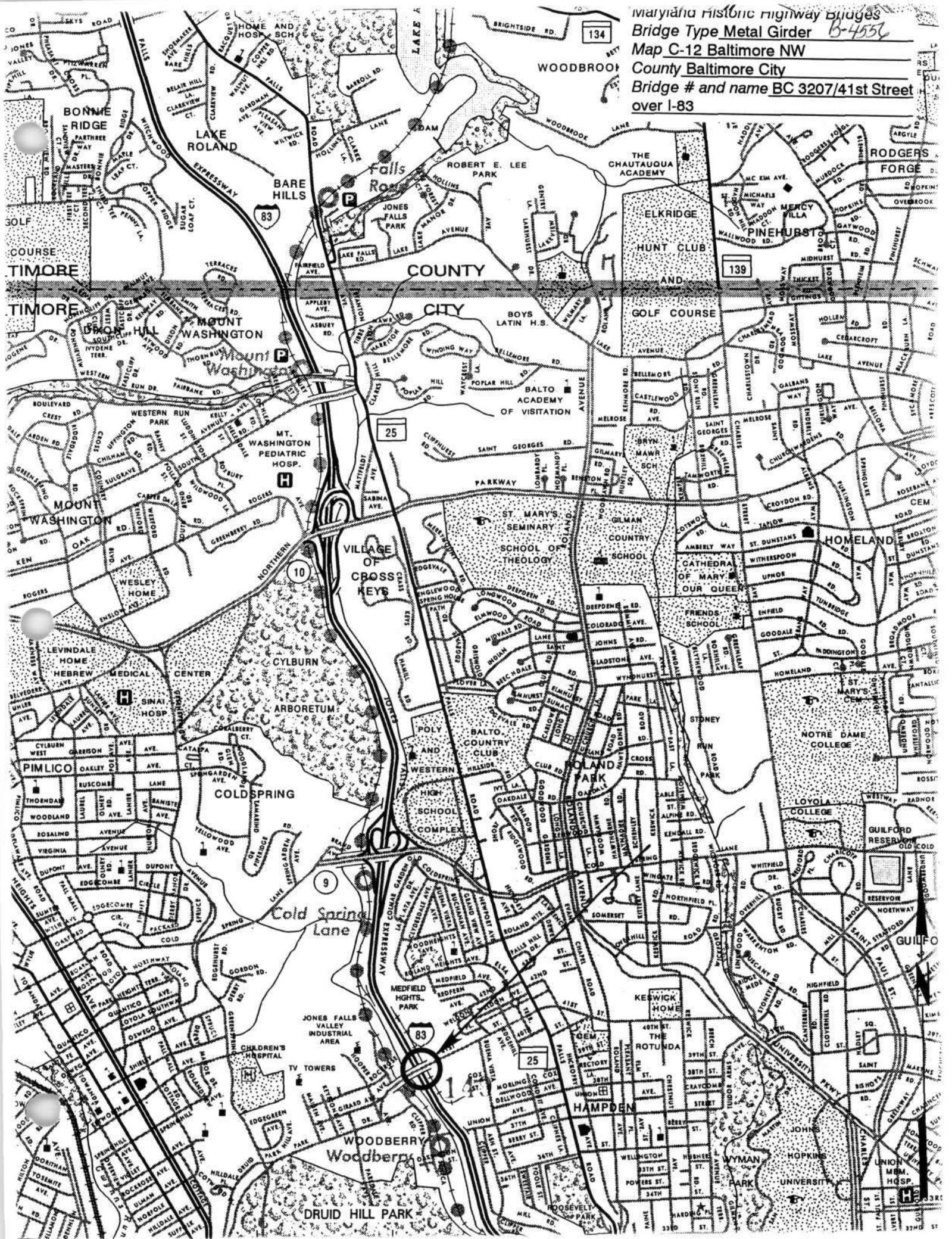
**Name:** Andrew M. Watts **Date:** March 1996

**Organization:** State Highway Administration **Telephone:** (410) 321-2213

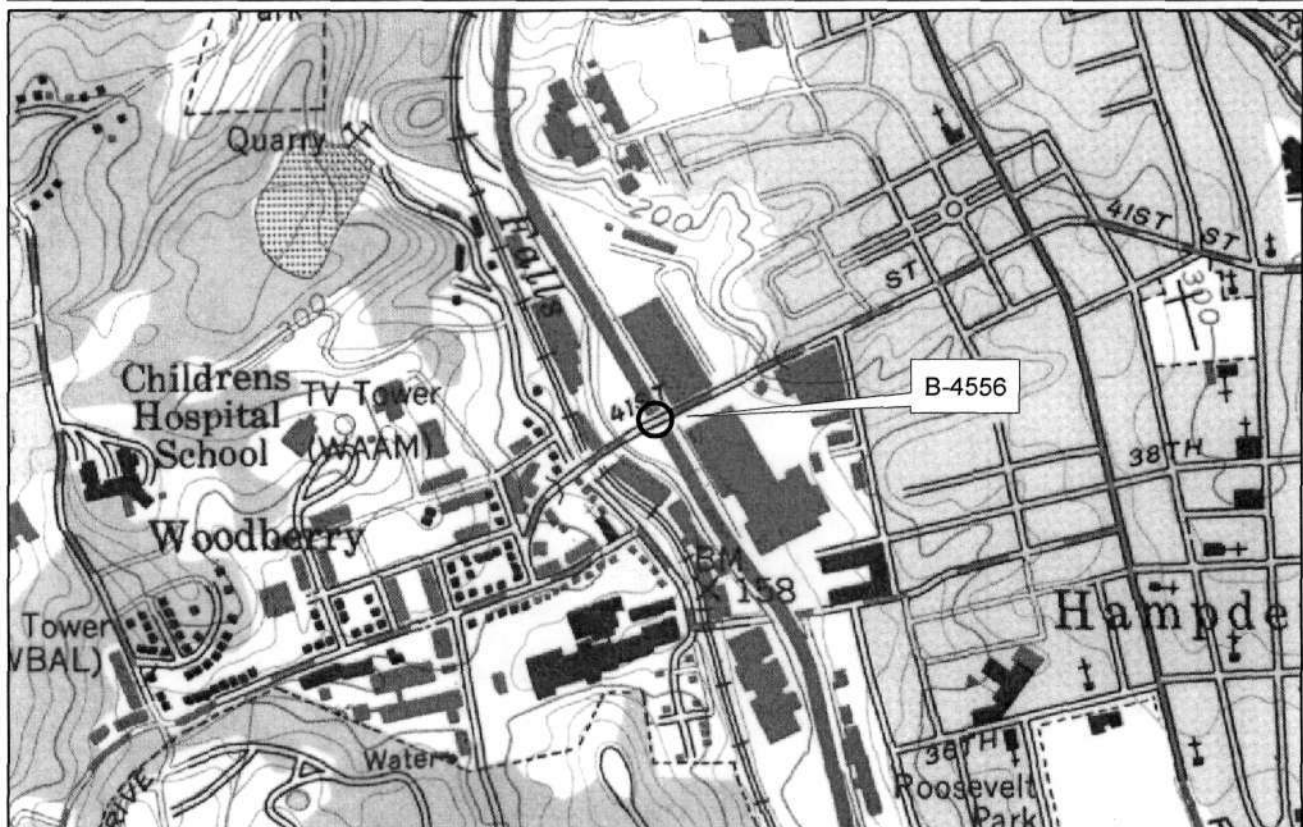
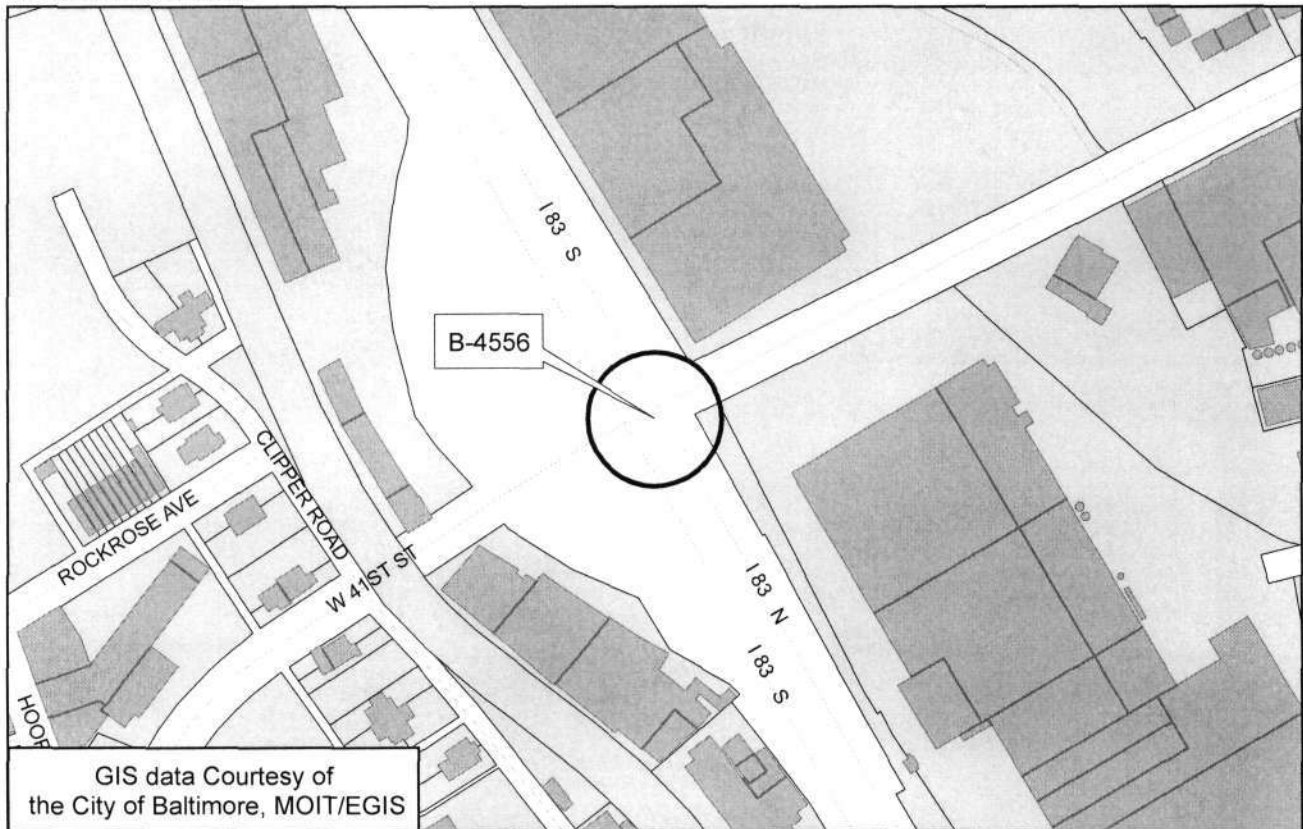
**Address:** 2323 West Joppa Road, Brooklandville, MD 21022



Maryland Historic Highway Bridges  
Bridge Type Metal Girder B-4556  
Map C-12 Baltimore NW  
County Baltimore City  
Bridge # and name BC 3207/41st Street  
over I-83



B-4556  
Bridge 3207  
41st Street over I-83  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore West Quad







**BOSTON  
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Inventory # B-4556

Name 3207-41ST STREET OVER IS 83

County/State BALTIMORE CITY / MARYLAND

Name of Photographer TIM SCHOEN

Date 1/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description WEST APPROACH

Number 1 of 25 9



Inventory # B-4556

Name 3207-41ST STREET OVER ISB3

County/State BALTIMORE CITY/MARYLAND

Name of Photographer TIM SCHOEN

Date 1/95

Location of Negative SNA

Description EAST APPROACH

2  
Number 18 of 25 4



SEARS SERVICE CENTER

23



Inventory # B-4556

Name 3207 41ST STREET OVER IS 83

County/State BALTIMORE CITY/MARYLAND

Name of Photographer TIM SCHOEN

Date 1/95

Location of Negative SWA

Description NORTH ELEVATION

Number 3 of 25 4



Inventory # B-4556

Name 3207-41ST STREET OVER IS83

County/State BALTIMORE CITY/MARYLAND

Name of Photographer TIM SCHDEN

Date 1/95

Location of Negative SNA

Description SOUTH ELEVATION

4  
Number 20 of 25 4

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